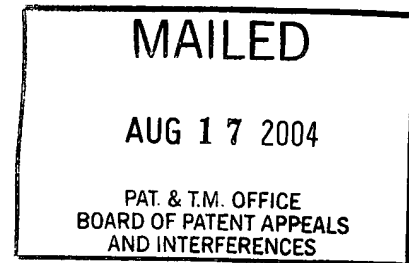


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

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Ex parte JOSEPH W. TRIEPELS, ROEL H.L. KUSTERS,  
FRANSISCUS G.C. VERWEG, HENRI S.A. HANDELS,  
MARCEL S.B. BACHUS, JOHANNES W.J.M. SCHEUERMANN

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Application No. 09/519,547

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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

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This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on July 21, 2004. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

On March 6, 2000, appellants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (Paper No. 5). It is not clear from the record whether the examiner fully considered the statements (i.e., JP 4-22077)

Application No. 09/519,547


submitted or whether the examiner notified appellants of why the submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that this application be returned to the examiner for: 1) consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement (Paper No. 5); 2) written notification by the examiner to appellants of such consideration; and 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be informed promptly of any action affecting the status of this appeal (i.e., abandonment, issue, reopening prosecution).

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By:   
Kimberly Jordan  
Program and Resource Administrator  
(703) 308-9797

cc: Philips Intellectual Property & Standards  
P.O. Box 3001  
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510 .

KJ/tdl/lc  
RA04-0728